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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

January Livestock Slaughter
Honey Production
Prices Received By Farmers

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during January totaled 700,000 pounds, unchanged from December but 17 percent above the previous year.

There were 800 head of **cattle** slaughtered during January, up 100 head from December and 200 head above the previous year. Average live weight was 845 pounds, down 19 pounds from the previous month but 52 pounds above January 2006. Total live weight, at 653,000 pounds, was four percent above the previous month and 40 percent above the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during January totaled 300 head, unchanged from December and the previous year. Live weight averaged 518 pounds, up 13 pounds from December and 24 pounds above a year ago. Total live weight, at 140,000 pounds, was down seven percent from December and 14 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during January totaled 1,400 head, down 800 head from the previous month but 100 head above January 2006. Average live weight was 187 pounds, up 30 pounds from December but 25 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 271,000 pounds, 21 percent below December and three percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during January was 100 head, down 100 head from December but unchanged from the previous year. Live weight averaged 67 pounds, down two pounds from the previous month and 22 pounds below the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.09 billion pounds in January, up five percent from the 3.90 billion pounds produced in January 2006.

January 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays. January 2006 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was six percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.80 million head, up six percent from January 2006. The average live weight was up five pounds from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.3 million pounds, 21 percent above January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 74,300 head, 34 percent above January 2006. The average live weight was down 31 pounds from last year, at 324 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.90 billion pounds, four percent above the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.37 million head, five percent above January 2006. The average live weight was down two pounds from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.1 million pounds, was seven percent below January 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 216,700 head, three percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down five pounds from January a year ago.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production

Item	Louisiana			United States	
	December	January		January	
	2006	2006	2007	2006	2007
	-----Number, thousand head-----			-----Number, thousand head-----	
Cattle	0.7	0.6	0.8	2,641.7	2,798.5
Calves	0.3	0.3	0.3	55.5	74.3
Hogs	2.2	1.3	1.4	8,915.1	9,365.5
Sheep & Lambs	0.2	0.1	0.1	224.5	216.7
	-----Total live weight, thousand pounds-----			-----Total live weight, thousand pounds-----	
Cattle	627	465	653	3,381,501	3,596,162
Calves	150	162	140	19,525	23,858
Hogs	344	280	271	2,426,925	2,535,125
Sheep & Lambs	10	7	9	32,201	30,197
	-----Average live weight, pounds-----			-----Average live weight, pounds-----	
Cattle	864	793	845	1,285	1,290
Calves	505	494	518	355	324
Hogs	157	212	187	273	271
Sheep & Lambs	69	89	67	144	139
	-----Million pounds-----			-----Million pounds-----	
Red Meat	0.7	0.6	0.7	3,898.5	4,092.3

Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield and Production¹

Selected States	Number of Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	-----1,000 Colonies-----		-----Pounds-----		-----1,000 Pounds-----	
Alabama	13	11	66	72	858	792
Arkansas	36	32	69	76	2,484	2,432
Georgia	59	63	49	74	2,891	4,662
Louisiana	35	30	97	90	3,395	2,700
Mississippi	16	14	80	98	1,280	1,372
Texas	84	82	71	70	5,964	5,740
United States	2,413	2,392	72.4	64.7	174,818	154,846

Honey: Stocks, Price and Values¹

Selected States	Stocks, December 15 ²		Average Price Per Pound ³		Value of Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	-----1,000 Pounds-----		-----Cents-----		-----1,000 Dollars-----	
Alabama	266	230	110	146	944	1,156
Arkansas	571	730	83	105	2,062	2,554
Georgia	434	746	89	116	2,573	5,408
Louisiana	611	675	72	89	2,444	2,403
Mississippi	346	453	67	105	858	1,441
Texas	954	976	87	87	5,189	4,994
United States	62,478	60,528	91.8	104.2	160,428	161,314

¹ For producers with 5 or more colonies.

² Stocks held by producers.

³ Prices weighted by sales.

Louisiana Honey Production

Honey production from producers with five or more hives in Louisiana during 2006 totaled 2.70 million pounds, down 20 percent from 2005. The number of colonies, at 30,000, is down 5,000 from 2005. Honey stocks on December 15, 2006, amounted to 675,000 pounds, up 64,000 pounds from 2005.

The average price received for honey sold during 2006 was 89 cents per pound, up 17 cents from 2005. The value of the 2006 honey crop was 2.40 million dollars, down two percent from the previous year.

United States Honey Production Down 11 Percent

Honey production in 2006 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 155 million pounds, down 11 percent from 2005. There were 2.39 million colonies producing honey in 2006, down one percent from 2005. Yield per colony averaged 64.7 pounds, down 11 percent from the 72.4 pounds in 2005. Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state where honey was produced, therefore yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 60.5 million pounds on December 15, 2006, down three percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

Honey 2006 prices increased to 104.2 cents, up 14 percent from 91.8 cents in 2005. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives. State level honey prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, co-op and private channels. Honey prices for each color class are derived by weighting quantities sold for each marketing channel. Honey prices for 2006 were up from the previous year for all color class totals.

Average Prices Received by Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	February 2006	January 2007	February ¹ 2007	February 2006	January 2007	February ¹ 2007
	-----Dollars-----			-----Dollars-----		
Soybeans, per bushel	5.92	6.29	6.55	5.67	6.38	6.83
Rice, per cwt	8.19	10.10	10.10	8.02	10.20	10.00
Upland Cotton, per pound	.479	.498	.486 ²	.489	.497	.489 ²
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	95.80	112.00	114.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt ³	68.00	59.90	60.60	92.40	84.30	85.80
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	111.00	92.90	93.00	97.60	89.80	90.70
Cows, per cwt ⁴	51.30	45.80	48.00	49.50	44.40	46.50
Calves, per cwt	134.00	108.00	110.00	143.00	115.00	115.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.380	.430	.470
Eggs, all, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.495	.915	.781
Milk, all, per cwt ⁵	n/a	n/a	n/a	13.50	14.50	14.70

¹ Mid-month.

² Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

³ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁴ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁵ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = not available.

February Farm Prices Received Index Increased Three Points from Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 127 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased three points from January. The Crop Index is up six points and the Livestock Index increased three points. Producers received higher commodity prices for corn, broilers, soybeans and hogs. Lower prices were received for broccoli, lettuce, eggs and oranges. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of dairy, cattle, broilers and strawberries offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat and cotton.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 14 points from February 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 127, increased three points from last month and 11 points from February 2006.

Prices Paid Index Increased One Point

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates is 153 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up one point from January and six points above February 2006. Higher prices in February for complete feeds, feed grains, mixed fertilizers and LP gas more than offset lower prices for feed concentrates, diesel fuel, herbicides and tractors.

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